THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Wednesday, the 11th August 1965.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Grade I Sanskrit Pandits

* 101 *Q*.—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether Grade I salary is allowed to a Sanskrit Pandit of Grade I qualification handling Higher Forms as the only Sanskrit Pandit in the High Schools, irrespective of the rule of 17 hours work?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Grade I scale of pay is allowed to a Sanskrit Pandit of Grade I qualification handling Higher Forms, if there is only one Pandit, irrespective of the rule regarding 17 hours of work, provided he was in service prior to 1st January 1948.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Sir, under what conditions is a Second I Grade Pandit allowed in respect of Sanskrit?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Notice, Sir.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are the rules applicable to the regional language, that is, Tamil, applicable to Sanskrit also in respect of the Sanskrit Pandit?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I would like to have notice.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Sir, in view of the encouragement that is proposed to be given by the Government to Sanskrit, will they extend the same rules as are applicable to Tamil to Sanskrit also in respect of the appointment of I Grade Pandit?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I would like to have notice.

Non-teaching staff in Secondary Schools

* 102 *Q*.—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation has been received from the non-teaching staff in Secondary Schools in Madurai district as regards revision of pay scales and service conditions; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Sir, this is a grievance of all the non-teaching staff in all the schools in the State. Is there any proposal before the Government to come to a quick decision at a very early date?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I have stated that the matter is under consideration.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Sir, it is the habit of the Government to say " It is under consideration ", for years. Will the Government say that they have any proposal before them for giving them any concession or remuneration as they have asked for it, instead of saying for years that it is under consideration?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : It is difficult, whether it is the Government or anybody else, to give up one's habits.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Sir, are the Government aware that the cuts in respect of the non-teaching staff have not yet been restored, and, if so, what are the reasons for it?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I have no particulars about it. The hon. Member may put a separate question.

Ranganathaswami temple, Srirangam

* 103 Q.—SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the rampart walls of the Ranganathaswami temple, Srirangam, are in a very dilapidated condition with stones falling from them and endangering the life of people living nearby;

(b) whether the Government have examined the present condition of the walls;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to keep the walls in good condition; and

(d) the agency to which the responsibility of maintaining them in good repairs has been entrusted?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes. The Chief Engineer (Buildings) after inspection has stated that the walls constitute a danger to the public to a certain extent.

(b) & (c) The Chief Engineer has given instructions to destroy all the live plants grown over the rampart walls. The Commissioner, Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Administration Department), Madras, who was requested to inspect the premises along with the Executive Engineer, Tiruchirappalli Division, a representative of the temple, and the Municipal